

Course Information



Abnormal Psychology

PSY 2300-503

Fall 2024

Course Section Information

online: Oct. 14-Dec. 12

Abnormal Psychology

PSY2300 503

Course Description

Prereq: ENGL 1010 and PSY 1010. An introduction to the psychological science of mental disorders including problems of emotion, mood, mind, schizophrenia and personality disorders. Diagnosis and treatment will also be considered.

Semester: All

Welcome to Abnormal Psychology! We get to focus on various ways things go awry in psychological development. Abnormal Psychology is a highly complex and fascinating field of psychology. You will be introduced to various approaches of studying abnormal behavior, with emphasis placed on symptom classification, etiology, and current treatment approaches to a variety of psychological disorders. While you will not be licensed to diagnose or treat anyone following this course, you will become familiar with recognizing symptom clusters and possible treatment approaches. Some of the mental

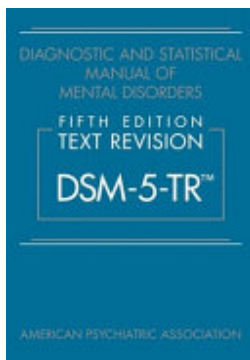
health disorders we will review include mood disorders, anxiety, trauma and obsessive-compulsive disorders, schizophrenia spectrum disorders, personality disorders along with a variety of other disorders. Unfortunately, due to limited time, we will not be able to cover every disorder or any particular disorder as much as you may wish, but I invite you to come discuss these types of topics with me outside of class. We will also focus on topics such as clinical assessment, diagnosis, theories of abnormality, as well as some legal and ethical issues in mental health services. We will also consider historical, cultural and social perspectives in understanding and responding to abnormal behavior along with current issues in mental health. Besides our textbook, we will also become familiar with and discuss the current edition of the Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th edition, text revision (DSM-5-TR).

Textbooks, Readings, and Course Materials

Authors: OER

Title: Abnormal Psychology

Link: <https://opentext.wsu.edu/abnormal-psych/>



Authors: (this book is recommended, not required)

American Psychiatric Association

Publication Date: 2022-01-01

Title: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders

ISBN: 9780890425763

For more information on textbook accessibility, contact Accessibility & Disability Services at ads@slcc.edu.

Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites

Psy 1010

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Compare and contrast various theoretical constructs regarding what constitutes abnormal behavior and how these constructs have shifted throughout history and across cultures.
- Describe the clinical presentation of a variety of disorders in the current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual and be able to differentiate between common disorders, including mood, anxiety, and psychotic disorders.
- Evaluate the current state of psychological diagnosis and treatment of mental health disorders, including legal and ethical considerations and the advantages and limitations of the current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual.
- Describe the methods involved in clinical diagnosis and assessment in treatment of various disorders and psychological research.
- Explain the multi-dimensional approach to understanding of abnormality.
- Synthesize symptomatology, assessment and treatment for a range of psychological disorders.
- Identify and examine local community health agencies and resources.

Communication Plan

Example language:

- I will respond to email within 24-48 hours. I will offer feedback on major assignments within 1 week. The best way to contact me is via the Canvas Inbox, as I will prioritize this email over other modes of communication.
- In this course I will be posting interactive announcements which will offer specific opportunities for class questions and extra credit every other week.

How to Succeed in the Course

This is a face-to-face course, meaning that we meet once a week 7-9:50pm on Thursdays. The best way to be successful in this course is to read the chapter and watch any materials before class and actively participate in class discussions and case studies. There is a lot of work, so please try to stay up to date on it so you don't fall behind. You do get up to 4 freebie late assignments (you can take these any time and do not need to

ask permission first, just let me know. Additional/extenuating circumstances, please discuss with me), but the further you fall behind, the harder it is to catch up. You will get the most out of the in-class discussions if you have completed the readings before class.

All assignments will be turned in on canvas and all quizzes and tests will be on canvas, so you will need a computer, access to canvas, and a stable internet connection for class. Most (if not all) the content you will need to successfully complete the course will be housed on Canvas (and the OER textbook is online). For example, the syllabus, diagnostic assignments, quizzes, lecture PowerPoint, exams, additional reading material, media links and exam prep materials are all posted on-line. In addition, your grades will also be posted on canvas.

Grading Scale

Final Grade Distribution

A	94 → 100	C	74 → 77
A-	90 → 94	C-	70 → 74
B+	87 → 90	D+	67 → 70
B	84 → 87	D	64 → 67
B-	80 → 84	D-	60 → 64
C+	77 → 80	E	0 → 60

Course Grading Policies

Grading Criteria/Rubrics: [Description text about how the instructor grades coursework.]

Grading Turnaround Time: [Description text about when a student can expect graded work returned.]

Late Submissions: [Description text about what a student does and what they can expect.]

Assignment Schedule

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	Anonymous Survey Extra Credit	Quiz	0
	Student-Only Discussion Forum	Discussion	0
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10/18/24	Orientation: Get to know each other and what is abnormal psychology	Discussion	5
10/18/24	Syllabus Quiz	Quiz	5
10/20/24	Application 2: Multidimensional Model	Assignment	5
10/20/24	Application Assignment: Normal vs. Abnormal	Quiz	5
10/20/24	Module 1 Discussion: How does Culture influence our view of "normal" and "abnormal"?	Discussion	5
10/20/24	Module 1: Ch 1	Quiz	5

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
10/20/24	Module 2: Chapter 2 Quiz	Quiz	5
10/20/24	Module 2: Epigenetics	Discussion	5
10/27/24	Case Study: Neurodevelopmental Case Study	Discussion	5
10/27/24	Discussion: Neurodevelopmental Discussion	Discussion	5
10/27/24	Module 3 Discussion: Dimensional vs. Categorical Model	Discussion	5
10/27/24	Module 3: Ch 3 Quiz	Quiz	5
10/27/24	Presentation Disorder Topics	Discussion	2
10/27/24	Quiz: Neurodevelopmental	Quiz	5
11/3/24	Ch 4 Mood Disorders Case Study	Discussion	5
11/3/24	Ch 5: Trauma and Related Case Study	Discussion	5
11/3/24	Discussion: Trauma Related Disorders	Discussion	5
11/3/24	Extra Credit Studying Self-Assessment Survey	Quiz	0

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
11/3/24	Module 4 Discussion: Understanding Mood Disorders and How to talk about Suicidality	Discussion	5
11/3/24	Quiz 4: Ch 4 Mood Disorders	Quiz	5
11/3/24	Quiz 5: Ch 5	Quiz	5
11/10/24	Ch 6 Case Study	Discussion	5
11/10/24	Ch 7 Case Study	Discussion	5
11/10/24	Discussion: Ch 7 Anxiety Disorders	Discussion	5
11/10/24	Discussion: Dissociative Disorders	Discussion	5
11/10/24	Exam 1: Essay Question	Assignment	5
11/10/24	Quiz 6: Ch 6	Quiz	5
11/10/24	Quiz 7: Ch 7	Quiz	5
11/10/24	Test 1: Ch 1-3, neurodevelopmental, Ch 4 & 5	Quiz	45
11/17/24	Case Study: Ch 8	Discussion	5
11/17/24	Discussion: Ch 8	Discussion	5
11/17/24	Midterm Survey	Quiz	0
11/17/24	Quiz 8: Ch 8 Somatic Disorders	Quiz	5
11/18/24	Extra Credit Survey	Quiz	0

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
11/24/24	Ch 10 Case Study: Eating Disorders	Discussion	5
11/24/24	Case Study: Ch 9 OCD & Related Disorders	Discussion	5
11/24/24	Discussion: Ch 9 OCD Discussion	Discussion	5
11/24/24	Module Discussion: Eating Disorders	Discussion	5
11/24/24	Quiz 10: Ch 10 Eating Disorders	Quiz	5
11/24/24	Quiz 9: Ch 9 OCD	Quiz	5
12/1/24	Case Study: Ch 11	Discussion	5
12/1/24	Case Study: Ch 12	Discussion	5
12/1/24	Discussion: Ch 11	Discussion	5
12/1/24	Quiz 11: Ch 11 Substance Abuse	Quiz	5
12/1/24	Quiz 12: Ch 12 Schizophrenia	Quiz	5
12/1/24	Rough Draft of your Movie Review (optional).	Assignment	0
12/1/24	Schizophrenia & Psychosis	Discussion	5
12/8/24	Ch 13 Discussion: Personality Disorders	Discussion	5

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
12/8/24	Ch 13 Personality Disorders Case Study	Assignment	5
12/8/24	Quiz Ch 13: Personality Disorders	Quiz	5
12/9/24	Movie Review on a Psychological Disorder Research Paper	Assignment	25
12/9/24	Psychological Disorder & Movie Review Presentation	Discussion	25
12/12/24	Extra Credit Reflection on E-portfolio	Assignment	0
12/12/24	Final Essay Question - Only answer ONE	Assignment	10
12/12/24	Final Exam	Quiz	50

Coursework & Assignment Descriptions

Course Requirements

Assignments	Points
Tests (2x50)	100
Quizzes (15x5)	75
Discussions (15 x 5)	75
Case Studies/Application Activities (15x5)	75
Signature Assignment (Paper & Presentation)	75
Total	500

Exams (2 x 50 points = 100)

There will be five exams for this course (4 unit exams + 1 comprehensive final exam) with one dropped. All exams will be completed on canvas. Exams will consist of both a multiple choice section and an essay portion.

Quizzes (10 x 5 points =50)

There will be chapter quizzes given on Canvas. Quizzes are open book and open notes but NOT open friends. Make sure you have completed your reading and assignments prior to taking the quiz (your lowest quiz will be dropped).

Differential Diagnostic/Application Assignments (10 x 5 pts each = 50)

Most weeks of the course you will have the opportunity to complete a diagnostic or application type of homework assignment. Instructions for the weekly assignment will be given on Canvas in the module for the week. Be sure to check Canvas early in the week so that you have time to fulfill the experiment.

Discussions (10 x 5points = 50)

We will be engaging in a variety of discussions regarding a variety of topics throughout the semester, typically about one per week. I encourage you to watch the videos before class and think about the questions. You are welcome to share a brief post, but as long as you participate in our in-class zoom discussion, you do not need to post more on the canvas assignment.

Signature Project (50 points)

Part 1: Psychological Disorder Research Paper & movie critique (25 points): You will write a paper in APA formatting researching a particular disorder, its history, symptoms, etiology, treatment, etc, and then select a movie that you think portrays this disorder and

discuss in what ways it portrays the disorder well (what is accurate) and critique the movie (in what ways is it an inaccurate description and/or increase stigma around the disorder). See details on the assignment description on canvas

Part 2: Disorder Presentation & Movie Review Project (25 points): You'll present your findings in a creative way to the class. See details on the assignment description on canvas.

Course Content Warnings/Trigger Warnings

Please be advised that this course may include discussions, readings, and other content that some students might find distressing or triggering. Specifically, the course may cover topics such as:

- Violence or traumatic events
- Sensitive social and political issues
- Discussions of mental health, including depression and anxiety
- Graphic or explicit descriptions and imagery
- Any other specific content relevant to the course

Our aim is to explore these topics thoughtfully and respectfully, understanding their importance in our field of study. However, we recognize that such material can be challenging. If you have concerns about your ability to engage with certain course materials due to past experiences or personal reasons, please feel free to discuss this with me privately. We can explore alternative ways for you to engage with the material while ensuring your educational experience is not compromised.

Your well-being is important, and support services are available through the college's counseling support services should you need them.

Advising and Counseling Support Services

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab: <https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus>. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab: <https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus>. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

How to Navigate to Canvas

Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

You can access the document by clicking on the following link:

<https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus>

Online Tutoring

Students at SLCC have access to online tutoring through Canvas. From your Canvas course click Online Tutoring in the course navigation and follow the steps to set up an appointment. If this is your first time using the Online Tutoring we recommend you click "Take a Tour" to familiarize yourself with the service.

Note that students only receive 480 minutes of tutoring time each semester. After that we encourage you to use the resources found through this link:

<https://www.slcc.edu/tutoring/index.aspx>

If you have any additional questions reach out to elarningsupport@slcc.edu.

Student Academic Calendar

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

[SLCC Student Academic Calendar](#)